Docket No.: 86655.1522 PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 17-20 and 23-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 31-48 are cancelled, and claims 17, 19, 23 and 25 are amended to remove minor informalities. The amendments are proper under 35 USC §1.116 as they merely cancel claims, comply with requirement of form expressly set forth in the Final Office Action, do not raise new issues and place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. No new matter is added. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a Divisional Application. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 17-20 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph due to minor informalities. By this Amendment, claims 17, 19, 23 and 25 are amended to obviate the informalities and to comply with requirements specifically set forth by the Final Office Action.

As all the requirements to date expressed by Examiner Swarthout are addressed,
Applicants respectfully solicit that this Application is in condition for allowance and
requests that Examiner Swarthout permit the Application to issue as a patent. However, if
the Examiner believes that the Application can be put in even better condition for
allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative listed below.

Docket No.: 86655.1522

PATENT

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0238 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Volentine Francos & Whitt, P.L.L.C.

B. Y. Mathis

Reg. No. 44,907

October 17, 2006

One Freedom Square 11951 Freedom Drive, Suite 1260 Reston, Virginia 20190

Telephone No.: (571) 283-0720 Facsimile No.: (571) 283-0740